

First Heat of the Season, Water Conditions update, and Climate Display at the State Fair

Today will be the first 100-degree day of the year for many communities.

With the Delta breeze shut down, and near-solstice sunshine blazing, this will be a test of air conditioners and individual tolerance. A

100+ would be the hottest for Sacramento since July 26 of last year. Of course, July, 2006 brought the record heat wave, with 11 days at or above 100 in a row in Sacramento, from the 16th through the 26th. The previous record had been 9 days, and that had stood since 1996, and had only happened a total of 4 times.

Today and tomorrow will be in the triple digits from Redding and Red Bluff down to Fresno; and Bakersfield possibly through Friday. Although model trends indicate a weakening of the hot air mass this weekend, the wind forecast does not show a strong westerly flow through the Delta, nor a substantial marine layer. So it's likely the 'cooldown' will only be to the mid 90's, maybe lower 90's if we're lucky locally. No Red Flag Warnings are posted locally, although dry north winds are priming the fuel, making it likely the next heat event will lead to fire watch.

Current status:

Reservoir Water Storage, at the end of May, 2007 (in 1,000 acre feet) for some selected locations:

(one acre foot is the water that covers one acre of land one foot deep, or 325,900 gallons)

Upp.Klamath	433.4
Warm Springs	236.7
Camanche	266.9
Hetch-Hetchy	361.0
Castaic Lake	308.9
Trinity Lake	1954.4
Lake Shasta	3601.2
Folsom	787.2
Lake Berryessa	1421.9
Lake Almanor	945.1
Lake Oroville	2965.2
Bullards Bar	855.8
Union Valley	262.7
New Melones	1778.2
Lake McClure	657.3
Millerton	347.5
Pine Flat	698.3

Lake Tahoe 560.3

And on the Colorado River, storage was at 12691.1 thousand acre feet at Lake Powell, and 12963.0 thousand acre feet at Lake Mead as of the end of May. These are fairly low (near 13 million acre feet – maf), since the historical average at the end of May for each is near 20 maf.

Statewide percentage of average reservoir storage for the end of May was 96%. The mid-June average is very close to that.

To keep up with conditions in between Weather and Climate Newsletters, please use our Executive Summary, updated approximately every week:

<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/current/EXECSUM>

The U.S. Drought Monitor June 5 update puts all of California (with the exception of the Smith River basin) at some level of dryness. The intensity ranges from abnormally dry to extreme drought as you move from north to south down the state. For a graphical depiction, and definition of terms see:

<http://www.drought.unl.edu/monitor/monitor.htm>

Los Angeles is on its way to breaking the record for lowest rainfall in a season. With only 18 days to go, the current rainfall stands at 3.21". Previously, the driest season was in 1960–61, when 4.85" of rain fell. By comparison, Broken Bow, Nebraska had a one-day rainfall record on May 29th, with 5.65". Los Angeles has mustered only 57% of that in one season.

A cooler than average May and early June contributed to the shutdown at the Harvey O. Banks pumping facility in the Delta, in a roundabout way.

Delta smelt migrate further west (away from the pumps) when the water warms above 25 degrees C, according to fish experts. However, the warming has not been that extensive so far this year. DWR shutdown the export pumps on June 1st, and has resumed only limited pumping since that time. This topic is making news, of course, with water officials in Southern California and the Bay area concerned about the possibility of a lengthy shutdown. To find out more about DWR's current approach to the multiple issues facing the Delta, please go to:

<http://www.deltavision.ca.gov/>

Terrific news about the State Fair DWR booth. Partnering with us will be NOAA/NWS Sacramento. They will be displaying Science on a Sphere, a magnificent free-hanging Earth video presentation system. With the theme of Climate Change, our joint effort will be a huge draw, with specialists on hand to speak about ocean currents, atmospheric rivers, and IPCC models of global warming. The video available includes real-time

satellite over the globe, and animations for atmosphere, ocean and land processes. DWR's interactive displays will include the Flood Plain Model, impacts of climate change on California, and drought/conservation information and activities for kids.

For great animations and pictures of NOAA's Science on a Sphere, go to:

<http://sos.noaa.gov/datasets/>

For additional Climate Change information, go to the climate change portal at:

<http://www.climatechange.water.ca.gov/>

See you August 17 through Labor Day at Cal Expo!

Special Thank you to Maury Roos, DWR for the reservoir latest. And warm wishes and gratitude for his recovery and return to his post, following a heart attack last month. Thanks, Maury!

(EL)

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